

is the best lifelong means of avoiding diseases transmitted by sexual contact.

In fiscal year 2006, North Carolina received \$1,248,963 in Federal title V funding. North Carolina's Department of Public Instruction receives the title V funds and uses teachers' salaries as in-kind contributions to meet the required Federal match. The Department of Public Instruction keeps 10 percent of the funds for administration; the remaining funds are given to 101 school districts and 14 charter schools throughout the State. In order to

be eligible, schools must have at least one class of 7th through 12th graders, and schools must comply with the Federal A–H criteria for abstinence education. Funding is distributed based on the number of grades and students each school has; schools receive \$333 per grade and \$1.31 per student in grades 7 through 12. Schools are free to use the money at their discretion as long as they do not violate the Federal Government's eight-point definition of "abstinence education." Staff at the

North Carolina Department of Public Instruction visit school sites on an as-needed basis for general monitoring.

The people of North Carolina have made the choice to provide an abstinence message to their teens, and title V funds help them achieve this goal. I urge my colleagues to support reauthorization of title V and to oppose any provisions that could undermine the choice made by parents in North Carolina to support abstinence education.